FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In this newsletter you will share so many success stories: students achieving their licence through our driver program, a whole range of Enrichment experiences, subject prizes and competitions, enterprise activities and more. The photos and articles provide a snapshot into some of the highlights of the term.

However, so many highlights in our college take place away from the camera – writing essays, solving maths problems, creating resumes, taking part in the Student Leadership Group and students supporting each other in tutorials, to mention just a few. It’s these invisible highlights I would also like to celebrate.

GETTING OUT, GETTING ACTIVE

Students got active in some fantastic outdoor experiences as part of the Term 3 Enrichment Program: a trip to the Tarkine, skiing and snowboarding at Mt Hotham and Ben Lomond, mountain biking on Mt Wellington, a trip to the Huon Valley, an alpine bushwalk and scuba diving on the Tasman Peninsular.

Each student at Elizabeth College has made a contribution to the lives of others in some way. Our college is only safe because students treat each other with respect and, although we have a strong security presence with our security and police officers, it’s the day to day interactions that make this a positive and enriching culture.

As we head into the inevitable pressures of Term 4, stay in touch with Home Group Teachers or our Students Services Team to ensure your son or daughter achieves ongoing success – personal success that will lead them towards exciting futures.

Dr Dianne Purnell
Principal
PRACTISING ARTISTS

The Art Studio Practice rooms at the College have been transformed this year into individual spaces to give students the experience of working like real artists. While there are no formal classroom lessons, students take on the responsibility of self-directed learning through a mentor relationship with their teacher. They are required to develop proposals, create visual schematic overviews of their work, and they will be assessed on their developing art practice and their final folio of work. While the subject has been running for several years, Year 12 students have revelled in the new room design and in the freedom it gives them to pursue their art.

“It’s really freeing,” said Xochtlquetzl Heather. “We get so much access to really good quality materials, and when we have an idea it’s never ‘no’, it’s always, ‘let’s see how we can make it work.’ I would never have had the opportunity to do this otherwise.”

FROM PREP TO PATHWAYS PLUS

Pathways Plus students spent a full day hosting a class of South Hobart Primary Preps, to develop their skills in building relationships and working as mentors. The action began with a morning tea and moved on to colouring in, jewellery making and some intricate fairy garden construction to sell at the primary school fair. The Prep kids adored their bigger buddies and everyone was exhausted after a full day of mayhem, making and fun.

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COP THAT!

Senior Constable Simon Jones is stoked with his “100% success rate” helping students to achieve their L2 licences though our Safety Matters Learner Driver Program: the two learner drivers he has coached since he came to EC in June have both passed first time around! He credits their success to “some of the old tips and tricks for successful defensive driving learned in the police force.” Simon and Bhavika Sharma pulled up in the EC car park after Bhavika’s test with big smiles on their faces. Bhavika’s success adds to the fifty-eight L1s, nine L2s, and two P1 licences achieved by students this year, according to program coordinator, David Brown.
OVERSEAS ADVENTURES

It was an amazing adventure, experience and challenge for the students and staff on the mid-year international trips to Japan and Vanuatu. The students and teachers who travelled to the small island of West Ambae in Vanuatu, played and worked with children from Ndui Ndui Primary School, lived with the families, were welcomed by their Bumbus (women elders) and learned about the culture and more about themselves. On the way they stopped in Santo and climbed mountains, walked on bamboo ladders over canyons, floated down rivers and journeyed into dark caves.

The staff and students on the Japan trip made their way to a week’s homestay in Hiroshima via three days sampling the culture, shopping and often unidentifiable but fantastic food of Tokyo, a trip to the historic city of Kyoto and two days in Osaka. One highlight was the incredible Hemji Castle, one of the finest surviving examples of traditional Japanese architecture, but the other, of course, was meeting their host families and going to school in Japan for a week!

CAFÉ TANG REVIEWS

English Applied students were treated to afternoon tea at Café Tang in exchange for writing reviews of the food and service offered by the hospitality students. They complimented hardworking hospitality students on the warmth, friendly service, comfortable layout and their delicious hot chocolates, cakes and biscuits.
CELEBRATING SCIENCE

The chickens finally hatched and over one thousand primary school students from all around Hobart entered the cheeping, fizzing, popping, zooming, squelching, amazing world of science in our annual Science Week extravaganza at the start of Term 3. The week kicked off with a reception at Government House featuring Elizabeth College musicians and selected student guests and then the action began. One Year 5 student from Huonville Primary School, hands deep in sheep brains, was overheard saying, “This is the best day ever!”

EC students also showcased their own research in a mid-week science symposium, involving research into the local environment.

“THE STEM SUBJECTS ARE RECEIVING A LOT OF PRESS AT THE MOMENT,” SAID SCIENCE TEACHER, MARTY GOSS. “SCIENTIFIC LITERACY IS ESSENTIAL TO UNDERSTANDING OUR NATURAL AND CONSTRUCTED WORLD. SCIENCE WEEK IS A FANTASTIC WAY TO EXPLORE THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE FOR ALL AGES.”

SELL IT LIKE A BOSS

Work Readiness classes brought the EC Mega Market to the Undercroft in the second last week of term. The market was part of their $20 Boss Challenge, developed by the Foundation for Young Australians and the National Australia Bank. Students had to come up with their own business and product using $20 start up cash and there were lots of profits turned on the day. Sweets and homemade cordial, tie-dye t-shirts, cards, designer face painting, second hand clothes and even a dress up photoshoot were all snapped up by customers enjoying the spring weather. Josh Montgomery and Josh Stokman were pleased with the profit they made, which they will donate to the Starlight Foundation.

“We’ve cleaned up house; everything’s gone,” they said. Ebony Genge appreciated the challenges of the task. “It’s been great to do something as a group – I’m not a group person normally, but it feels good to give something back.” Lucas D’Amico, Dylan Bassett and Myra Hayes went through a bit of trial and error perfecting their products, and acknowledged that, “It’s worth persevering and learning how to fix your problems.” School of Business students also joined in the day, which featured Segway rides and a BBQ.
COLLEGE STUDENTS TRAINED AND READY FOR TASSIE TOURISM

Elizabeth College students tasted the best of the Tasmanian tourism industry on ten day work placements in August. Mona, the Port Arthur Historic Site, Zoo Doo and Wilderness Tours are just some of the premier Tourism businesses that are working in partnership with the college to upskill students for future jobs in this rapidly expanding industry.

At Port Arthur, students Brandon Thompson and Bailey Vaughan appreciated the opportunity to put their learning into practice in a professional environment.

“I FEEL LIKE THERE ARE LOTS OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY; SO MANY THINGS ARE OPENING UP IN TASSIE RIGHT NOW,” SAID BRANDON.

We thank the staff and supervisors in the industry who mentor the students in this exciting growth industry.

LANGUAGES COMPETITIONS

Students studying German at Elizabeth College recently received some brilliant results in the annual Goethe Competition. In the Poetry section, Level 2, Alexander Kingsley took third place and Jessie Ure received an Honourable Mention. Dara Campbell received an Honourable Mention in the Poetry senior section.

In the Besondere Bewertung poetry section for background speakers, Roxane Foglietta took first place, Luisa Gil Johannsen came second and Matilda Rowe came third. Honourable mentions went to Mijawi White Bear and Eliot Pollien. In the Conversation section, Matilda Rowe came second, Shadia Kuoni came third, Noémie Baiche and Benjamin Gremion received Honourable Mentions. Thanks to teachers Marie-Rose Genovese and Ans van Heijster for supporting their students to achieve such a high standard.

Chinese students also came out on top in the 2017 Tasmanian Chinese Speaking Competition. Sophie Young came first and Alma Nicolau second in the advanced category of the conversation section. Sabrina Van Rooy came second and Kieran Stanfield was highly commended in the beginner category. Thanks also to Bing Xu, Chinese teacher and Suzie Han, teaching assistant.

BUSINESS NETWORKS

School of Business students are wrapping up a great year learning from Tasmanian businesses and leaders throughout the state. They networked with accountants and business leaders at the Meet the Business Leader event at the Hotel Grand Chancellor earlier in the year and visited the food relief organisation, Foodbank, as part of an investigation into social enterprise in Hobart. Rotor Life, Enterprize Hub and Roaring 40s have hosted tours, while Shiploads Managing Director Ashley Wilson and Echelon Marketing Managing Director, Tara Howells were visiting speakers.
IGNITE

Last week, in a class I did not sign up for
A boy raised his hand in a group discussion and said
“Aboriginal people massacred themselves
because they didn’t assimilate to white folk”
Such ignorance was hard to swallow,
Tasted bitter on my tongue.
I was ashamed

Another girl raised her hand
Voice dripping with judgment and added
“And like if it wasn’t a law for aboriginal kids
to go to school, none of them would be educated.”
Her words were hard to swallow
Felt sticky in my mouth.
I was ashamed

Not because I am ashamed of who I am
But because I didn’t say anything
Because the words stuck in my throat
Like a body struggling in a strait jacket
Because my lips stayed sealed and my eyes cast down,
I was ashamed

Because sometimes I care more about staying invisible
Than I care about changing the world
I was shamed
From the age of eight, defending my identity to strangers
Who believed the pigment of my skin was just too light
Not black enough,
I was ashamed

At the age of twelve, kicked out of the local shop
Because a man said I made him uncomfortable
My soul being there was just too much,
Too much culture, too much woman,
I was shamed
And I struggle now to understand how I could
Be both too black and not black enough?
I was shamed

See, I don’t know where I came from
Don’t know whose freckles are scattered on my back
Because the government stole our Nanna’s babies,
Babies taught to swallow their language,
To hold their tongues
Trained to forget who they were,
We were shamed

Congratulations to English Writing student, Blaze Ferguson,
whose poem has been highly commended in the National
Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Competition.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS COME OUT SWINGING

Ogilvie and New Town High School students joined
forces with the two Elizabeth College Stage Bands
at the end of the term to top off a string of recitals
that are part of the culmination of students’ studies
in music. Performers were treated to an afternoon
workshop with saxophonist, Al Dobson who heads
the Conservatorium of Music Big Band and who took
on the role of Guest Band Director for the night.

Audiences were treated to swing tunes and jazz,
while musicians had the opportunity to trial pieces
for the UTAS vocal ensemble recitals; their major
assessment which takes place in early October.

“The upcoming musicians are looking good!” said
EC student, Sarah Green. The collaboration is a
great way to give our high school feeder schools
a taster of music at college.
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

We celebrated National HPE Day on 6 September by hosting our very first Elizabeth College Athletics Carnival. Organised and run by students in the VET Certificate I/II Sport and Recreation classes, it brought together participants of all levels in a range of track, field and novelty events. Whilst there was snow on the mountain and a chill in the air, the day was filled with a fun and encouraging atmosphere. House groups came together and cheered on their peers, whether they were coming first or last! With Attenborough House taking the inaugural win, this was a fantastic way to bring our school community together.